

of \$400. This legislation allows for a comprehensive, three pronged approach of prevention, treatment and reintegration which involves: increasing access to prenatal care, emergency obstetric care, postnatal care, and voluntary family planning; building local capacity and improving national health systems; addressing underlying social and economic inequities, reducing the incidence of child marriage, and increasing access to education; and supporting reintegration and training programs to help women who have undergone treatment return to full and productive lives. These essential investments create a multiplier effect of benefits for women and their communities.

It is also imperative that Congress supports ongoing efforts in the fight to end fistula. Organizations such as UNFPA (the United Nations Population Fund) and USAID are working with partners in a global campaign to prevent and treat fistula with the goal of making the condition rare in areas of the developing world, such as sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. The legislation also supports coordination through the International Obstetric Fistula Working Group. Support for monitoring, evaluation, and research to measure the impacts of such programs throughout their planning and implementation phases will ensure the most efficient and effective allocation of U.S. foreign assistance dollars.

We are already well aware that promoting women's health is fundamental to ensuring the health of their children and families. With this bill, we can give women around the world hope for a healthy future. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of the Obstetric Fistula Prevention, Treatment, Hope, and Dignity Restoration Act.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR BETSY
PATERSON UPON HER RETIREMENT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mansfield, Connecticut's 16-year mayor, Betsy Paterson upon her retirement. For nearly two decades, Betsy has provided rock-solid leadership for her town and her community, serving the residents of Mansfield with her know-how and forward-thinking initiatives.

Starting in 2007, Betsy led her town through a landmark reinvestment campaign. Working with the Mansfield Downtown Partnership to secure millions in state and federal funding. Betsy and the town embarked on an historic downtown improvement project that delivered to Mansfield residents and to the flagship University of Connecticut located in Storrs, additional open space, economic development and improved transportation. Betsy's leadership leveraged federal infrastructure investment with outstanding private sector development to leave a long-lasting impact on the town's business development and livability and a huge enhancement to UConn's ability to draw the "best and brightest" to its mission. Today, Storrs Center serves as an important transportation and economic hub that fuels a lively community and reflects Betsy's vision and determination.

In addition to her Mayoral duties, Betsy has served on the board of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, as a member of the Presidential Search Committee at the University of Connecticut, and on the Mansfield Democratic Town Committee and the Mansfield Historical Society.

Betsy has been a terrific friend and colleague during her time as Mayor. Although her leadership will be missed in the Mayor's office, I am confident that her deep involvement in the future of Mansfield will not end with her retirement. I ask my colleagues to please join me in thanking Betsy for her lifetime of service to Mansfield and eastern Connecticut.

REMARKS AT AMERICAN ARCHITECTURAL FOUNDATION'S
OCULUS AWARD CEREMONY

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I had the honor of addressing the American Architectural Foundation's Oculus award ceremony to celebrate leadership in cultural heritage and highlight organizations whose preservation initiatives promote vibrant, sustainable communities. This year's Oculus award was presented to Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates for their national leadership in historic preservation.

I want to applaud the work of the American Architectural Foundation (AAF) and its president and CEO Ron Bogle. AAF's efforts to make restoration, preservation and protection of our nation's vulnerable historic buildings, collections, artifacts and works of art a national priority is commendable and it's an agenda I fully support.

Mr. Speaker, I submit my remarks from today's Oculus award.

Good afternoon.

Thank you, Mr. Ayers for the kind introduction. I appreciate all that you and your staff are doing to keep Congress working while you are restoring our beautiful Capitol dome. Thank you for your leadership.

I am thrilled to be here today.

The American Architectural Foundation is playing an important role in driving an agenda that places cultural heritage, historic preservation, and architectural restoration at its forefront.

I want to commend the vision and tremendous work of AAF President and CEO Ron Bogle, along with Mr. Thom Minner, Director of AAF's Center for Design and Cultural Heritage. Ron and Thom are working with me to get Congress re-engaged as a partner in protecting and restoring our country's historic treasures, treasures that unite communities and connect the past to the future.

We are here today to honor a company for more than 50 years of accomplishments in historic preservation. Congratulations to Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates on receiving the 2015 Oculus award.

WJE has a long record of contributing to projects across the U.S. and around the world. They have an office in Minnesota, but I was surprised to learn how often we worked at the same places.

In the early 1970s my first full-time job was in downtown St. Paul in the First National Bank building. Later, WJE worked on the First National Bank building. As a Minnesota state legislator, I spent eight years

working in our beautiful Cass Gilbert designed state capitol building. WJE has worked on the capitol. And, one of my proudest accomplishments in Congress has been to help secure the funding for the renovation of St. Paul's historic 1920's era train station—Union Depot. The Depot's \$250 million restoration was completed in 2013 and, again, WJE worked on the project.

Again, congratulations WJE on your tremendous record of success.

At the beginning of this year I became the lead Democrat on the Interior-Environment Appropriations Subcommittee. Each year our subcommittee produces a bill that provides over \$30 billion to fund the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of the Interior, the U.S. Forest Service, the National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities, the Smithsonian museums, and a number of other federal agencies. It is an important portfolio that funds hundreds of millions of acres of federal land, our national parks, tribal nations, and many of America's most important historic sites.

Over the past months my office has been engaged with federal stakeholders and AAF to review the federal government's role in historic preservation. It is absolutely clear that without leadership from Congress and the Obama Administration our nation's most vulnerable treasures are at risk of being lost to time, decay, or neglect. Unfortunately, Congress and the Administration are neglecting our nation's treasures and this political apathy is costing the American people our cultural heritage.

In the 2016 House and Senate Interior-Environment appropriations bills, approximately \$61 million is allocated to the Historic Preservation Fund—primarily to support historic preservation offices in states, territories and tribal nations. This amount represents less than half of the \$150 million authorized funding level and it is nearly \$20 million less than was spent on historic preservation in 2010.

This abandonment of historic preservation runs counter to the desires of our constituents. States, local communities, non-profits, the foundation community, and the private sector want the federal government to be a real partner. All across our country communities come together and identify endangered historic and cultural assets that uniquely reflect local character and identity. It may be a historic building, a church, an archeological site, or a collection representing a moment in a community's history that exemplifies a unique piece of our American history. And, communities are asking for help—both technical and financial—because they want their valued asset to be preserved, protected, and restored for the next generation.

From 1999 to 2010 help was available. During those years, Congress provided modest, but critical funding for a program called Save America's Treasures. \$318 million in federal funding was appropriated for SAT grants over twelve years—that is less than \$1 per American for a decade of investments. Those grants required a dollar-for-dollar match which leveraged over \$400 million in additional funds.

But, since 2011, Congress has not provided a single dollar to Save America's Treasures.

During SAT's twelve years, more than 1,200 grants were awarded to restore 327 historic properties; 247 projects to restore collections, artifacts, artistic works, and documents were funded; and, 341 National Historic Landmarks were preserved.

The treasures saved include: the restoration of Rosa Parks' bus; restoring Little Rock's Central High School; saving Ansel

Adam's prints, negatives and equipment; restoring an 18th century South Carolina plantation house; preserving the ruins at Colorado's Mesa Verde National Park; and repairing and preserving the 1812 flag that flew over Fort McHenry that inspired the Star Spangled Banner.

In my Minnesota congressional district, a \$150,000 SAT grant matched by community contributions helped to fund a sprinkler system in the longest serving Czech-Slovak Hall in the U.S. built in 1879. This grant saved the Sokol Hall while other ethnic halls have been lost to fire. On Saturday I'll be attending an event at the Sokol Hall and it is a wonderful center of community activity.

SAT has been an example of a public-private partnership that keeps history, culture, identity, and democracy vibrant and sustainable in towns and cities all across America.

In my view SAT grants have acted as venture capital that sparks a community into action. It is an investment that inspires a community and donors to invest time, money, volunteer support—all to the benefit of the project. A good project with an SAT grant becomes a great project. Without that federal support many projects will never get done and national treasures are now being lost forever.

I am passionate about restoring federal funding for SAT because I have a partner that shares my enthusiasm. That partner is the American Architectural Foundation. The National Park Service is SAT's lead federal agency while AAF is SAT's official non-profit partner.

Other federal partners include the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. They all have valuable technical capacity to contribute—if federal funds are made available.

In 2016 our nation will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Next year also marks the 100th anniversary of our National Parks. As citizens who care about historic preservation, now is the time to get organized and energized. Working together, we need to get Congress investing once again in Saving America's Treasures.

I am thrilled to be working with AAF and other partners who share the vision that preserving America's past helps to build America's future.

It has been wonderful being here with you. Thank you AAF for the invitation to be here today.

Thank you.

MANNINGTON MILLS ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF BUSINESS IN SOUTH JERSEY

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to celebrate the One Hundredth Anniversary of Mannington Mills, Inc. Located in my district in Salem, New Jersey, Mannington Mills is a leader in the manufacturing of residential and commercial flooring.

Mannington Mills has expanded significantly since its founding in 1915, growing from a small roots family business in South Jersey to a global industry leader today. This organization has been very successful in extending their services outside of New Jersey, recently expanding into Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina, and Florida where they invested in new

facilities that helped to create several hundred new jobs in each state.

The company's many years of success has allowed them to expand internationally as well. In 2012 Mannington Mills acquired Amtico International, a producer of luxury vinyl flooring headquartered in England. This new location provided many more business opportunities and allowed the company to bring its hometown brand overseas.

Mannington Mills' commitment to social responsibility makes this company stand out among others. Chairman of the Board, Keith Campbell is a firm believer in the "Do the Right Thing" philosophy that the company and family has kept with them since they first opened. This has ensured a strong community connection, and only adds to their success.

Over the last century, Mannington Mills has built a reputation of quality products in southern New Jersey and the United States. Ignoring pressure to move out of state, Mannington Mills' unwavering support to the local economy and its employees is a testament to the organization's founding principles that has spanned four generations. The company, family, and employees can take great pride in this remarkable milestone.

My sincere congratulations and best wishes for many more years of success.

IN OPPOSITION TO S.J. RES. 23 AND S.J. RES. 24

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to both resolutions before us today. Congress has a constitutional duty to conduct oversight of the Executive Branch, and the Congressional Review Act is an important tool in our toolbox. However, these resolutions are nothing more than partisan attempts to nullify the EPA's Clean Power Plan, sending a message to countries around the world of political discord in the United States as global climate change negotiations are taking place in Paris.

Climate change is real and it is a threat to the entire world. The first nine months of 2015 were the warmest on record and these higher temperatures have contributed to the drought and wildfires that have ravaged my home state of California over the past five years.

It's also a fact that the costs of failing to address climate change—both human and economic—grow with every year we fail to take action. A recently released United Nations report revealed that in the past two decades weather-related disasters have killed more than 600,000 people and cost trillions of dollars in economic losses. The report cited rising ocean temperatures and melting glaciers as two main drivers of extreme weather events which have increased at an alarming rate. The White House Council on Economic Advisers also calculated that failing to meet our climate goals will cost the U.S. \$150 billion per year in reduced economic output. For each decade we ignore climate change, the costs of mitigation increase by 40 percent, which works out to approximately a \$500 tax on every American each year, increasing by 40 percent every ten years.

With Congress failing to act on climate change, the Administration is taking strong ac-

tion which I support. As we speak, representatives from over 190 countries are working to produce a landmark agreement in Paris to cut greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions on a global scale and invest in clean energy technologies. Even before the negotiations began, countries that make up nearly 90 percent of global GHG output submitted pledges to cut their emissions, including major polluters such as China, India, and the United States. In the U.S., the Clean Power Plan is projected to reduce GHG emissions by 32 percent by 2030.

There is global recognition of the threat of climate change and the two resolutions before the House today would invalidate a key part of our nation's responsibility to reduce global GHG emissions by preventing any future EPA regulation of carbon emissions from power plants. This is a blatantly transparent attempt to influence the Paris negotiations on behalf of the status quo and the special interests in the fossil fuel industry. I believe the mere consideration of these resolutions diminishes U.S. leadership and this institution in the eyes of the world community, and it condemns us to a future of even higher risks.

I urge my colleagues to oppose these resolutions of disapproval.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,782,451,267,806.04. We've added \$8,155,574,218,892.96 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF DR. CHARLES MOJOCK, PRESIDENT OF LAKE-SUMTER STATE COLLEGE

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize a close friend and highly accomplished leader in education, Dr. Charles Mojock, on his upcoming retirement. On December 31, 2015, Dr. Mojock will retire as President of Lake-Sumter State College.

Under Dr. Mojock's leadership, Lake-Sumter State College has transitioned from a community college to a state college, undergone a name change, joined the Central Florida Higher Education Consortium and DirectConnect to UCF, and launched Associate of Science degree programs in Health Information Technology, Computer Information Technology and Environmental Science. During his tenure, Dr. Mojock witnessed the growth and expansion